

SPRINGFIELD



SCENE

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OF WIGAN
ATHLETIC

30p

Wednesday, 23rd September, 1981 — Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- PORT VALE

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LARRY LLOYD

Tonight's visit of Port Vale is very important to us. After picking up our first three-pointer of the season on Saturday against Northampton, we need to string together a couple of wins, thus pegging back the teams above us in the table.

With the system as it is now, it is vital to win games as opposed to drawing them.

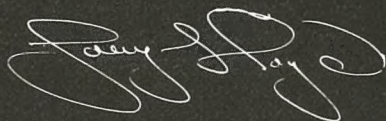
We still have one or two problems in certain areas of the pitch, but I can assure you there is a lot of work being done throughout the week to correct this. I ask you all to be a little patient. Get behind the lads, and give them your full vocal backing, because, if things are not going particularly well at any stage of the game, the last thing the players want is for their own supporters to turn against them.

Congratulations to David Crompton, our Youth Team Coach, who has guided our lads through two rounds of the F.A. Youth Cup, and I'm sure we all wish Dave and his boys continued success in this competition.

Congratulations also to Dave Brooks and Mick Clarke, our reserve team coaches, who have also got off to a fine start in the Lancashire League and the Umbro Floodlit League.

Enjoy the game.

Larry Lloyd




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Scene Four

COMPILED BY TONY PULLEIN

Aldershot's First Win in 10 Years!

Aldershot fans have become so used to League Cup disappointment that, after they had been held at home by Wimbledon to 0-0 in the first leg, only a handful bothered to travel the short distance to Plough Lane for the return game. But those who did were rewarded with "The Shots" first League Cup victory in ten years.

The Shots, in fact, had waited longer than any of the other 91 Football League clubs since succeeding in this competition. Their last success was a 3-2 aggregate victory over Southend United in 1971.

Drawn against Wimbledon in the First Round for the third successive season, Aldershot felt their chance had gone after being held at home, but two fine goals from Colin Garwood, and another, from a free-kick close to the half-way line, from Malcolm Crosby, helped them to win the return leg 3-1.

Tranmere Rovers League Cup joy was tinged with frustration for player-manager Bryan Hamilton. Tranmere Rovers, whom Wigan visit on Saturday, failed to score in any of their opening three Fourth Division games. Yet, faced by Third Division Burnley in the League Cup, Tranmere rammed home seven goals over the two legs! The Prenton Park club won 4-2 at home, then drew 3-3 at Turf Moor last week.

Port Vale, tonight's visitors to Springfield Park, also met with greater success in the League Cup. They ousted Hereford United 3-1 on aggregate, though they managed to score only once, and that from a penalty, in their first three League games.

Mansfield Town's goals famine finally came to an end in their return home leg against Scunthorpe United. The Stags, under new player-manager Stuart Boam, had failed to find the target in four League and Cup games. Jim Lumby finally broke the deadlock with both goals in their 2-0 win over Scunthorpe United. As the first leg had been goalless, Mansfield Town went through into the Second Round.

Peterborough United had a shock awaiting them at Barnsley, one of the clubs newly promoted to the Second Division. Three days after they had clouted Rochdale 5-1 in a League game at London Road, "Posh" found themselves on the receiving end of a hammering as Barnsley slammed in six goals without reply.

A.F.C. Bournemouth still had maximum points from three League games when they attempted to recover from a 0-1 deficit from the first-leg against Fulham. They were still in with a chance until about five minutes from time when the "Cottagers" hit two more goals to put the tie beyond retrieval.

Problems are already beginning to mount for Crewe Alexandra's new manager, Arfon Griffiths. With only a skeleton staff, he has had to blood several untried players in his team and their inexperience has been fully exploited. Crewe lost their first three League games without scoring a goal.

However, the Railwaymen put up an encouraging display against Third Division Bristol Rovers in the League Cup. Alan Ricketts, one of the players given his League debut, scored their first goal of the season when they drew 1-1 at home to Bristol Rovers whilst, in the return game, the defence stood up well to pressure and finally only went down 0-1 on the night and 1-2 on aggregate.

Crewe Alexandra were the last Fourth Division club still awaiting their first point and it's beginning to look like a long uphill battle for them. They are one of the clubs whose League status would be threatened should they had to make another application for re-election. Now that the loan rules have been altered again... last season loan transfers were restricted to goalkeepers only, Mr. Griffiths could well try to persuade a well-known First Division player to provide the experience his team so sorely needs.

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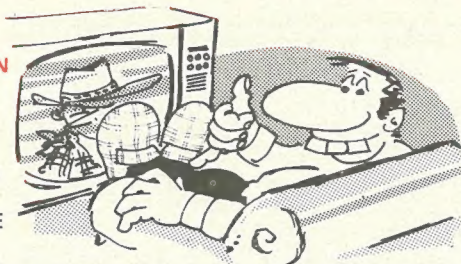
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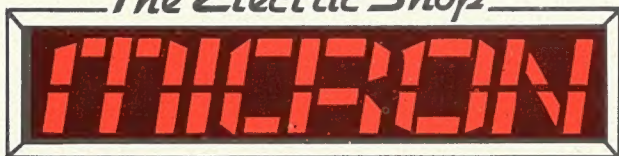


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Aldershot									0-0	3-1															
Blackpool								5-0													2-0				
Bourn'm'th								2-0	2-0																
Bradford																								3-3	6-2
Bury																		3-0			2-0				
Colchester																						3-0	4-0		
Crewe	2-3																					0-1			
Darlington		2-2																							
Halifax			1-1													1-1									
Hartlepool							1-3																	2-1	
Hereford					1-2	3-0																			
Hull					2-1															2-1					
Mansfield			0-1		1-1																				
North'pton													1-1							1-1					
Peterboro'														1-0				5-1							
Port Vale										0-0				0-0											
Rochdale											2-1						1-2								
Scunthorpe																									
Sheffield Utd		1-1																					2-1		
Stockport	4-2						1-0				2-2					3-0									
Torquay													2-1						1-0						
Tranmere												0-0													0-2
Wigan														3-1						0-1					
York										1-2					2-1										

COMING SHORTLY

TORQUAY UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

Has its roots somewhere in later years of the last century, but did not become a professional organisation until 1921, when two prominent local clubs, Torquay Town and Babbacombe amalgamated. The club played in the Southern League until elected to the Third Division (South Section) in 1927. In spite of many long years of hard competition, it is the proud boast of "The Gulls" that the club has only had to apply for re-election to the Football League on one occasion — at the end of their first season in 1927-1928.

The highest position ever achieved in the Football League (Division Three South Section) was in season 1956-1957, when the club finished with an equal number of points as the champions, Ipswich Town, but came second on goal average. Such was the organisation at the time, that the Torquay United Football Club was not promoted to the Second Division. However, with the formation of a Fourth Division in season 1958-1959, the Plainmoor Ground experienced football at that level for the first time. Third-placed in season 1959-1960, Torquay United bounced back into the Third Division, only to be plunged back again to the Fourth Division at the end of the 1961-1962 season. Since then, apart from the period 1966-1972, when they again enjoyed a higher level of football, the staple diet for the seaside club's fans has been Fourth Division fare.

For those interested in statistics, Torquay United have reached the Fourth Round of the F.A. Cup on three occasions, in seasons 1948-1949, 1954-1955 and 1970-1971. In the Football League Cup, the club has yet to progress beyond the Third Round. The heaviest defeats, both by the outrageous margins of 2-10, were against Fulham on the 7th September, 1931, and against Luton Town on the 2nd September, 1933. The biggest win recorded by the club was a 9-0 victory over Swindon Town on the 8th March, 1952. Record attendances at Plainmoor are 16,388 for a Football League game against Plymouth Argyle, on the 7th October, 1950, and 21,736 for an F.A. Cup Tie against Huddersfield Town on the 29th January, 1955.

Since Wigan Athletic joined the Football League, games between our club and Torquay United have always been lively and entertaining, producing several fine goals. The visit of "The Gulls" in the near future should be one of the highlights of the season.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SATURDAY, 3rd OCTOBER, 1981.

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- TORQUAY UNITED

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

Please note that the kick-off for the first team game against Tranmere Rovers, on Saturday, 26th September, is at 3.15 p.m.

The Second Round, First Leg, Football League Cup game, against Aldershot, will be played on Tuesday, 6th October, 7.45 p.m. Kick-off.



SUPPLIERS TO WIGAN ATHLETIC

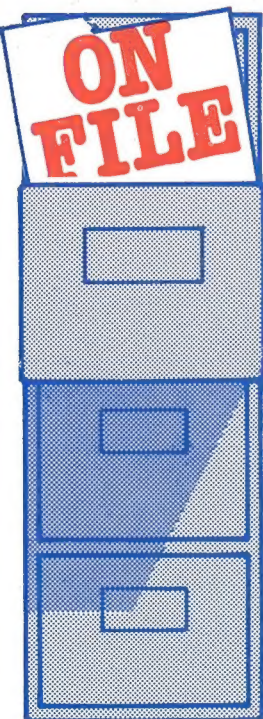
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As only one delivery of mail has been received since I wrote my last column, there are no interesting snippets which have come through from the Football League or the Football Association, so I'm going to take this opportunity to give you a look at some aspects of my day to day work.

When I started this job in July, I came from a position as General Manager of the Students Union at Manchester Polytechnic, a job which involved the overall management of five departments — Finance, Administration, Bars (six of them), shops (four) and Welfare. I was, therefore, quite used to dealing with a job covering a multitude of disciplines — the role of a Football Club Secretary, however, involves even more. With the invaluable aid of our back-up staff in the offices, I have to deal with numerous aspects of running a club.

Let us take a Monday, for example. This Monday in fact. Wages have to be made up, win-bonuses (when appropriate!), worked out, returns to the League about the previous Saturday's game (detailing the score, our players, the size of the gate and the share of the gate), gate-sheets, re-checked and filed; by the time this is completed, half the morning has gone and the normal day's work (book-keeping, paying bills, correspondence) has to be started — and no sooner is it started than interruptions occur; the F.A. Youth Cup fixtures have been decided, we're away to Bury; when should it be? What about a replay date? What time should the coach be booked for? Letters with all the details

have to be got off to the F.A. and to Bury, the ground staff have to be informed, a list of the squad has to be sent to the opposition. All done and back to invoices. But not many bills will be paid today because Oldham Athletic ring up. We've drawn them in the Lancashire F.A. Youth Cup.

Whilst all this is going on, at the back of my mind there is the next game, on this occasion a mid-week home game. Have all the tickets been sent to the opposition, are the caterers and stewards arranged, has the referee confirmed? And then the game after that, it's away. I must confirm the coach and all the other arrangements. And the League Cup away to Aldershot isn't far off. I must discuss the arrangement with Larry Lloyd. And, of course, there's a Board Meeting on Wednesday — things have to be prepared for that. And suddenly the Accountant is on the telephone about the new shares issue; when can he make an appointment. But most important of all, any programme notes have got to be done — no lunch today and my jog around the ground is up the spout. (Kenny Banks has got me on a programme of training so that I can eventually be the first ever Player-Secretary in the League.)

An hour or so left, and just enough time to do a few of the routine jobs. And then 5 o'clock comes, as it always does; another day, another dollar.

So, like many jobs, mine is very varied and very busy — but it's also very satisfying and (usually) enjoyable.

Cheers, C. T. Burke (Secretary)



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THE LOCAL VIEW



by Harold Ashurst

Post and Chronicle Sunday League team Castle Spinners have just lost a record of which any Football League team would have been proud. When they lost against Poolstock last weekend, it was their fortieth game since they joined the League — and their first defeat (yes, even longer than Gary Birtles took to score!) They now hold the League record for the longest unbeaten run, beating the previous best held by Billinge, who went an amazing 37 games without defeat. Castle Spinners new run is made up of 22 games last season and 16 the one before, but how long the record will last is open to question. Another Post League side, Pier, have so far gone 24 games without defeat.

Wigan Amateur League have been given a pat on the back from Cheshire League Chorley. In their official magazine "Magpie" they state: "The Wigan Amateur League is one of the best administered in Lancashire. They provide a top class referee every week and I must say that the refereeing is of the highest standard".

Work on the William Foster Playing Fields at Ince has now been completed and all teams who play there have remarked on the high standard. Only problem there now is overcrowding in the dressing rooms, with six soccer and two rugby teams. Overcrowding is not the word!

Transfer activity in the Wigan Amateur League is hectic to say the least. Recently no fewer than ten players have decided on a change of clubs and many more are going through the system.

Spare a thought for Bryn in the "Post" League. Last weekend they faced Hawk in a Division One clash, but had the option of playing the game as a Hurst Trophy First Round tie. Bryn declined for some reason, and then went on to win 6-0. Finally, a strange fact at this stage of the season, there is not one club in the Wigan Amateur League's four open age and youth divisions with a 100 per cent record, and, in the case of the youngsters, only three games have been played!

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P I C T U R E



ABOVE
"Peter Houghton's cross causes confusion in the Northampton Town defence"

BELOW
"The ball runs out to David Glenn who crashes his shot home for the first Wigan goal".
Photographs by David Cookson.



G A L L E R Y

NOTICE BOARD

Hospital Broadcasts

Every first-team home and cup game is broadcast to Wigan Infirmary, and the Billinge and Wroughtington hospitals. Any messages, especially those of a humorous kind can be broadcast to patients. Messages usually transmitted at half-time. To have a message broadcast, write out the message, include the patient's name and hospital, the ward where they are staying, and, of course, your own name, and hand or post in the details to "Hospital Broadcasts", Wigan Athletic A.F.C. Ltd., Springfield Park, Wigan.

Any contributions to this section of the programme should be addressed to "Notice Board", Commercial Department, Wigan Athletic A.F.C. Ltd., Springfield Park, Wigan.

Have Car, Need Passengers

Colin Davies, of the Aldene Private Hotel, 16 Tudor Place, Blackpool, Tel. 0253- 43110, would like to hear from any fans travelling to Springfield Park from the Blackpool, Fylde and North Preston areas wishing to share the cost of transportation to the ground.

Help the Handicapped

Margaret Wilkinson of 201, Gidlow Lane, Wigan, Telephone No. 36930, has appealed for members of the public to donate educational toys (Lego and the like) for use by Community Nurses for the Mentally Handicapped, operating in homes and playgroups. All toys to be handed in at the Supporters' Club, Springfield Park, Wigan.

Programme Fairs

Sunday, 11th October, 1981. 7th Annual Bolton Programme Fair, to be held in The Banqueting Suite, Pack Horse Hotel, Bradshawgate, Bolton (in town centre) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thousands of programmes, old and new, will be available. Members of The Junior Latics admitted free, on showing membership card.



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MONEY MATTERS



It is always pleasing to report that plans, which have been laid two or three months previously, have finally made their way off the drawing-board and have been translated into positive action. Such is the situation with our lottery tickets. Early in the close season, discussions took place with our principal suppliers — Astra Games Limited and Luton Sports Press Limited — with a view to introducing two new tickets onto the market to coincide with the start of the new season. For one reason and another, our plans have been put back a little, but, during the coming week, after what seems an eternity of delay and minor aggravations, our agents will receive their first supplies of the new-styled rub-off and bingo tickets. Each type of ticket boasts prize money of £3,500 per lottery, quite an increase on what was previously offered, but the price to the purchaser will be 20 pence per ticket. At a time when money is becoming harder and harder to acquire, the good value offered by our new tickets is seen as a likely boost to what has been a rather depressed market in recent times. We feel that the ratio of winners, the range of prizes offered, the presentation of the tickets, and, above all, the competitive price,

will give us a decided edge in the local fund-raising sphere. Unfortunately, it now looks likely that it will not be my brief to see the new venture through to its fruition, and, because of impending changes, certain of my plans for agency recruitment and sales promotion have had to be put on ice, at least for the time being. However, I am sure that the seeds have been well and truly sown, and I can only hope that, when it is time for the harvester to reap his rewards, the crop will be good and full. Please support our fund-raising activities, without which life will indeed be bleak during the coming winter months ahead.

We are pleased to acknowledge the sponsoring of tonight's game by Aluman Welding Supplies, of 330-338 Haydock Lane, Haydock, St. Helens, Merseyside. Telephone No. Ashton-in-Makerfield 727788. Suppliers of all types of welding equipment and consumables to industry, largest supplier of safety equipment in the North West, main agents for ESAB, BOC and OERLIKON. In particular, we would like to thank Mr. John Fillingham, who is not only a principal figure with Aluman Welding, but also an enthusiastic Wigan Athletic supporter, for this involvement with match sponsorship.

Tonight's match ball has been kindly donated by Clarks Travel, 19 Wallgate, Wigan, Telephone No. Wigan 44119. Brian Clark, like John Fillingham, is a keen supporter of our team, and will no doubt be found in his usual spot on the terraces tonight. Clarks Travel offer an excellent service from their offices in Wigan and St. Helens, and can be relied upon to meet the customers' needs with courtesy and efficiency.

Please support both these local business concerns, who, yet again, have supported the Wigan Athletic Football Club.

Enjoy tonight's game.

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(Commercial Manager)

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MATCH DAY PROGRAMME

Any complaints, comments or opinion about the Match Day Programme should be directed to the Editor, Mr. J. T. Sudworth, Wigan Athletic A.F.C. Programme Department, Springfield Park, Wigan. Telephone Wigan 43067.

I commented in my last article that I had hoped to get back to winning ways against Port Vale in the Umbro League last Tuesday. My hopes proved to be reality when, with a depleted team, we took on a much more experienced side. At half-time we were trailing 0-1 to a very good goal and a good side, and frankly, the view of those on the bench was that we wouldn't score if we played until midnight. It just shows how wrong you can be. In the second half we pushed Tony Fraser wide on the left, and with Jeff Bailey wide on the right, it gave our midfield players the opportunity of coming forward with more space. How well they did it, and we finished up completely demoralising 'The Vale', and with Mark Edwards in scintillating form, we ran out winners 6-1. With two goals from him and, amazingly, two more from Pop Freeman, with Yates and Fraser bagging the others.

Just for a change, on Saturday, we played at, yes, you've guessed it, Port Vale again, (our third game against them in one and a half weeks). Could we beat them for a third

time, or would it be their turn for revenge? Wally Roberts and I were somewhat apprehensive, particularly as we had an even younger side out, boasting only Mark Wignall and Graham Hatton of the full-time staff. Things weren't made to look any brighter, when on arrival at Vale Park, my own personal hero, surely the best uncapped player of modern times, Jimmy Greenhoff appeared with their players. Fortunately, in an advisory capacity, and not as a player. Yet again, I could not have asked any more of the youngsters and, after a particularly dogged match, we ran out winners 1-0. Yet again, Mark Edwards supplied the finishing touch to Graham Hatton's cross.

Meanwhile, I am delighted to report that David Crompton's Youth Team are having a fine run in the F.A. Youth Cup. They have already beaten Crewe Alexandra 1-0, and last week defeated Rhyl 5-0. In the near future, they take on Bury Youth at Gigg Lane, and we wish them all the best.

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Supporters Club

SPOTLIGHT

The committee and bar staff would like to welcome the officials, players and supporters of Port Vale Football Club. I was hoping, at this stage, to be able to congratulate the Supporters' Club Cricket Team, but, due to the bad weather at the weekend, the match with Wigan Rugby Union Club, for the Spring View Trophy, was postponed. This match (weather permitting) will now be played on Sunday next, 27th September, 1981 at Spring View Cricket Club, wickets pitched at 1.30 p.m.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Starting on Thursday, 1st October, at 8 p.m., Kansas City Promotions Present Country and Western in The Supporters' Club, featuring Wigan's own Country Band, "The MOONSHINERS", who were finalists in the 1981 Wembley Festival. They are supported by KATY 'G' and her Country Disco, plus a WESTERN DRESS COMPETITION and supporting programme. The promoters would like as many as possible in western dress or country gear. Shows will be held fortnightly and only the best bands in the business will be engaged. Tickets are priced at 80 pence, or pay at the door on the night. Due to popular demand, we have on stage, on Wednesday 14th October, 1981, "ALTITUDE". Tickets will be priced at 50 pence each, or payment can be made at the door. Please note that the "JOHN MARTIN SOUND" concert will now be held on Sunday, 4th October, not on 27th September, as was previously announced. Tickets already purchased (at 70 pence) will still be valid.

NOEL WARD BENEFIT

Due to a late withdrawal by Kettle, last Wednesday's concert was postponed. A replacement concert will be held on Thursday, 24th September. Top of the bill that night will be the popular showgroup "SCHOONER". On Thursday, 29th October at 8 p.m., a Film Show will be held in the club, which will include the Daily Mirror Soccerscope of Wembley Finals 1923-1973 and the Manchester City v Wigan Athletic 1971 F.A. Cup Tie. Tickets will be 75 pence and will include the Soccerscope programme. On Thursday, 10th December, we will be holding a Couples' Night at The Riverside Club, which will include Dinner, Cabaret and Disco. Tickets are priced at £16.00 per couple.

This Weeks Entertainment

Saturday, 26th September, 1981 ALAN ANDERSON.

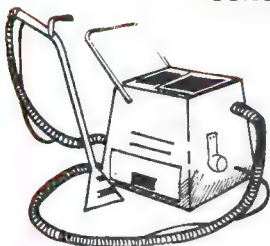
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Stuart Cooper.

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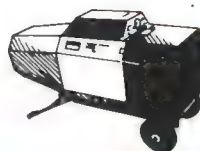
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today... in town today.

PORT



PORT VALE FOOTBALL CLUB — 1981-1982

Back Row (from left to right) Brissett, Deakin, Miller, Bennett, Chamberlain N, Keenan, Armstrong, Hunt
Front Row Bromage, Harwood, Moss, Harrison, Bowles, Higgins, Sproson.

This evening, we have the pleasure of a visit from our old rivals, "The Valiants" from Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent. We have always enjoyed our encounters with the Port Vale Football Club, and games between our two clubs have always been incident-packed and often goal spectaculars. Currently unbeaten in this year's League programme, John McGrath's team are likely to prove dour

competitors in tonight's game. Few Wigan Athletic supporters will need reminding of the dramatic game in our first season in League football, when a second-half revival of "Roy of the Rovers" proportions turned the game upside down and inside out to give Wigan a dramatic victory. Last season, few of us will forget the humiliating 0-3 defeat at Vale Park, that was the prelude to a major

shake-up on the play. Athletic Football Club then, to all our visitors whether directors, supporters; we wish an evening's entertainment the return encounter

PREVIOUS LEAGUE RESULTS

Season 1978-1979
 9th Jan. 1979.

Port Vale 2 Wigan Ath. 1
 H.T. Score 0-1 Att. 3,744
 Scorers:
 Port Vale: B. Wright, Todd
 Wigan Ath: J. Wright
 Wigan Ath: 5 Port Vale 3
 H.T. Score 0-2 Att. 8,452
 Scorers:
 Wigan Ath: Houghton (3),
 Brownbill, Moore
 Port Vale: B. Wright, Todd (2)

13th Apr. 1979

Season 1979-1980
 26th Mar. 1980

Wigan Ath. 3 Port Vale 1
 H.T. Score 3-1 Att. 4,854
 Scorers:
 Wigan Ath: Shearer (3)
 Port Vale: Beech
 Port Vale 1 Wigan Ath. 1
 H.T. Score 1-1 Att. 3,812
 Scorers:
 Port Vale: Sealy
 Wigan Ath: Shearer

7th Apr. 1980

Season 1980/1981
 6th Sept. 1980

14th Feb. 1981

Wig
 H.T.
 Sco
 Wig
 Port
 Port
 H.T.
 Sco
 Port
 N. G
 Wig

... in town today... in town today... VALE



ter, Chamberlain M.

ing side of the Wigan
s operations. Welcome
itors from Vale Park,
management, staff or
you a very pleasant
ent and look forward to
early in the New Year.

an Ath. 1 Port Vale 0
Score 1-0 Att. 4,678
rers:
an Ath. Gore
Vale —
Vale 3 Wigan Ath. 0
Score 2-0 Att. 3,214
rers:
Vale Bowles, Miller,
Chamberlain
an Ath. —

PERSONALITIES

JOHN McGRATH (Manager) John started his managerial career with Port Vale in December 1979 and in his first season steered the club clear of the re-election zone. Since then he has virtually replaced the whole of his playing squad and has done so without spending more than he has received. During his playing career he saw service with Bury, Newcastle, where he won a 2nd Division Championship medal, Southampton (where he made 168 first Division appearances) and Brighton. He spent seven years on the coaching staff at Southampton before his arrival at Vale Park.

JOHN RUDGE (First Team Coach) John was manager, John McGrath's first signing when he arrived at Vale Park following a period in a similar capacity at Torquay United. Although Wolverhampton born, John has spent much of his career on the South Coast. Apart from Torquay his clubs as a player were A.F.C. Bournemouth, Bristol Rovers, Carlisle United and Huddersfield Town.

MARK HARRISON (Goalkeeper) Last season was Mark's first full season with the club and one in which he made his first Football League appearance. Mark managed to make 25 first team appearances despite a lengthy lay-off through injury. John McGrath brought him to Vale Park from Southampton after he had served his apprenticeship at Nottingham Forest.

GERRY KEENAN (Defender) Another injury victim last season. Gerry was probably playing at his best when he went down with knee trouble. He is now fully recovered and ready to show the adventurous style that caused Vale to pay Bury £15,000 for his services in 1978. Gerry has now made a combined total of 160 appearances for his two clubs.

RAY DEAKIN (Defender) Signed during the close season on a "free" transfer from Everton. Ray was an ever present captain of their Central League side last season. An attacking competitive leftback with organising ability. A former England Youth International.

TERRY ARMSTRONG (Midfield) Joined Vale last season from Huddersfield Town. His fiercely competitive qualities immediately led to improved results and 17 first-team appearances with 2 goals. He made 40 first team appearances for Huddersfield.

PAUL BOWLES (Defender) (Club Captain) Paul is now into his third season with the club following his £30,000 transfer from neighbours, Crewe Alexandra. After a slow start to last season Paul really established

himself becoming Club Captain and making the No. 5 spot on his own. One of the few "married men" in the Vale squad.

PHIL SPROSON (Defender) Phil established himself in the Vale first team after making his debut in August 1978. His uncle was a former player and manager of the team.

TREVOR BRISSETT (Defender) Now in his second season with the club following his transfer from neighbours Stoke City. He made his first team debut for Vale against his former club in the first game of last season and then went on to make 45 appearances by the end of the season. Trevor is a local born lad and a tenacious tackler.

RUSSEL BROMAGE (Midfield) Russel has improved with every season since his league debut at Bradford in 1978. Basically a left sided midfielder with a goalscoring touch, Russel played most of last season at left back. He was so successful in this position that supporters voted him their player of the year. Although in his early 20's he has already made 107 first team appearances.

NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN (Forward) A local born lad who is the product of the club's youth scheme. Neville made his first team debut at Bradford in March 1978 and has gone on to become a regular goal scoring member of the first team. Brother of Mark. He has made 114 first team appearances and scored 33 goals.

MARK CHAMBERLAIN (Winger) Brother of Neville. Mark is quickly maturing into one of the most exciting players in the 4th Division. He can play on either the right or left wing and is a goal maker rather than goal scorer. Mark is a local lad who has represented England at schoolboy level. He made his first team debut in April, 1979 but it was only really last season that he established himself as a regular member of the first team.

ERNIE MOSS (Forward) Ernie is a vastly experienced goal scoring centre forward. He has played for a variety of clubs during his career. He joined Vale from Chesterfield during the summer for a five figure fee. He commenced his career at Chesterfield before moving to Peterborough United and Mansfield Town. He has made 428 first team appearances and scored 143 goals.

GEOFF HUNTER (Midfield) Geoff joined the club from neighbouring Crewe Alexandra during the close season. His tenacious midfield style made him a firm favourite at Gresty Road and was responsible for John McGrath investing a transfer fee in excess of £10,000 for the player. Geoff was formerly with Manchester United before joining Crewe. He was an ever present member of their side last season. He has made 86 League appearances during his career to date.

For the best in Latics news, interviews and features, read Harold Ashurst who writes every Thursday in

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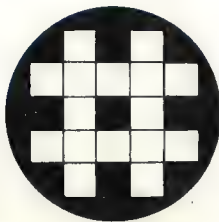
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PUZZLE PAGE



ON THE BALL No. 4

Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where the rest must go. **One of the Powells; Half a 100-goal striker . . . ; . . . the other half!; Canaries' colour.**

CLUB CLUB No. 4

Solve this cryptic club to identify a soccer side:

One side of t'building where t'cotton's spun.

MIXED DOUBLES No. 4

Re-order the letters in each of the words **ADVISE** and **COWER** to find two ex-Wales men.

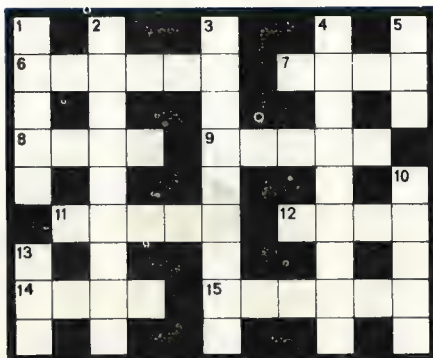
QUICK QUIZ No. 4

- Which was the last club to win the FA Cup with an all-English team?
- Which NASL club had Kevin Bond, Steve Daley, David Nish and Bruce Rioch in 1981?
- Which League club(s) did Lawrie McMenemy play for?
- Which South African brothers played for England?
- Which club did Peterborough United replace in the League?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 30

©PQRS

1981/82 SERIES



SOCCER NINETY-NINER

No. 4 (compiled by David Peck)

ACROSS

- Top scorer for Leeds last season (4,6)
- His WBA managerial slices sandwiched Atkinson (5)
- Preston's most prolific scorer last season (5)
- City successfully visited by Liverpool en route to winning the European Cup last May (5)
- Sullivan, say (5)
- Midfielder who won promotion to Division One with Carlisle in 1974, with 14 across in 1976, and with Bolton in 1978 . . . in 1979 he won promotion to Division Two with Watford! (5)
- See 13 across

DOWN

- MacLeod, maybe (4)
- Promotion-winners in 1981 (7)
- Famous English administrator who was behind, for example, the introduction of the 'diagonal' system of refereeing (4)
- A few seasons ago Brian Clough had a large, well-publicised notice displayed on the Forest pitch — it read: "Gentlemen, no ---, please!" (8)
- One of Charlton Athletic's nicknames (8)
- City which recorded a relegation double in 1981 (7)
- An England man puts this before 13 across (4)
- Jimmy --- was in the City half of 8 down . . . as he was in their 1980 relegation (4)

OUT & ABOUT



with Chris Gill

Looking back over the past couple of years it seems to me that Wigan Athletic fans have probably travelled the most number of miles . . . only to find the game off when they got there. The season before last was a disastrous one when disaster continued to strike with uncanny regularity.

It all started in October when a quick jaunt through to the north east, in glorious sunshine for three quarters of the way, ended at Hartlepool . . . in thick fog. The thing is I didn't even get to see the referee, and they swear he was out on the field inspecting the conditions and probably looking for his way off, before we completed the return leg of a fruitless journey. It was, I suppose, just one of those things, but the fact that I had taken to driving myself to Hartlepool . . . a rarity indeed . . . made the going harder.

A month later it was off to Tranmere, a quick dash through the homeland to Prenton Park . . . and sure enough it happened again. Not fog this time, but heavy, almost torrential, rain which flooded the park just 30 minutes before the kick-off. It was a question of getting to the lights near the ground and doing a quick U-turn. Hmm, my passengers and myself were not having much luck at all! Anyway, Christmas Eve fell without further mishap — probably because I had been

travelling with the team on their bus.

Then it happened again, a bright, breezy day at Northwich provided a super setting for a classic FA Cup tie. But it didn't last and soon some of my pals were beginning to put their finger on the problem. Yes, as the mist engulfed the Drill Field, seemingly puffed over the fence from the Dane, the penny dropped . . . and that sodden yellow car of mine just had to go. As friends began to walk on their hands, or ride on roof racks of other cars, the message soon got home. Without fail, whenever that car got an airing, the match was either postponed or called off half way through. So it got the OTB (order of the boot) and the jinx was over.

Trips to places like Chelsea, York and others, where play looked unlikely, brought football. At last people stopped pointing the finger, much to my relief.

But it would appear that fate has something about myself travelling to games in transport other than on a coach. Would you believe it, when Latics departed from their usual routine, by travelling to Wimbledon by British Rail, we had no sooner arrived at Euston than we had to wobble home again . . . yes, that match too was off!

Out and about with Chris Gill, who's kidding who?

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**"Kevin Sheldon races down the wing, hotly pursued by his Northampton Town marker".
Photograph by courtesy of David Cookson.**

STAR SHOTS by DAVID COOKSON

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star shots



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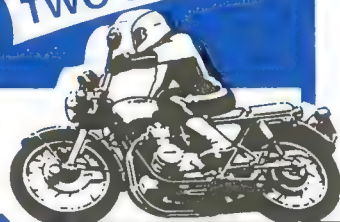
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The committee of an organisation such as the 'Junior Laties' has both the problem of having to find the right answers to many questions and the satisfaction of knowing that they are giving a great deal of pleasure to many young fans.

One of the questions that needs to be answered at present is 'How to involve well over 150 boys who want to play football for the 'Junior Laties'?

Some of the boys have played representative football, some have played for their schools and others just like playing football, but all are mad keen to play for the 'Junior Laties'.

We hope in one way or another to give every child the chance of walking out on to the pitch at Springfield Park. Whilst it will not be possible for every youngster to actually play football there are other schemes in which they will be able to take part and over the next few weeks the Committee of the 'Junior Laties' will be announcing details of at least one of these.

One of the best examples of involving children on match days is, of course, the Mascot Scheme. It gives so much pleasure not only to the youngster but to his family as well.

It is involving children right at the heart of the Football Club with the Manager and Players both in the dressing room and out on the pitch which is where most children long to be.

BEACON CONSTRUCTION

It can cost a great deal of money to buy a complete strip for a soccer team so you can imagine how grateful we are to Beacon Construction of Richmond Hill, Pemberton, Wigan for their sponsorship of a complete kit for the 'Junior Laties'.

The Committee and Members of the 'Junior Laties' would like to thank Barbara and Steve Urmston of Beacon Construction for their interest and help.



Match Day Mascot

Today's Mascot is MICHAEL RYAN.

Michael is 11 years old and attends Gidlow Middle School, where he is Form Captain.

His main interest is football and he looks forward to watching 'The Laties' at Springfield Park and Match of the Day on Saturdays.

Michael's favourite players are Bob Ward and Glen Hoddle.

**DON'T FORGET THE NEXT MEETING
TAKES PLACE ON OCTOBER 12th AT
6.45 p.m. DO NOT MISS IT.**

JOHN FILLINGHAM (Chairman)

JUNIOR LATIES



Photographs by David Cookson.



26



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DETAILS ON REQUEST.**

Home fixtures in capitals.
Wigan scores first

Player scoring bold.
† Player substituted.

*Figure indicates no. of goals scored by player.
*In result column indicates opponents own goal.

DATE	FIXTURE	F	A	ATT.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
------	---------	---	---	------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

1981																
AUG. 29	Bradford City	3-3	4,229		Brown	McMahon	Glenn	Cribley	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon†	Barrow	Bradd	Quinn	Evans ²	Houghton
AUG. 31	STOCKPORT CNTY. F.L. Cup 1 1st Leg	3-0	5,079		Brown	McMahon	Glenn	Cribley	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Bradd†	Quinn	Evans	Houghton
SEPT. 5	SHEFFIELD UNITED	0-1	8,001		Brown	McMahon	Glenn	Cribley†	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Houghton	Quinn	Evans	Wright
Sept. 12	Hartlepool United	1-2	1,715		Brown	McMahon	McAdam†	Cribley	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Barrow	Houghton	Quinn	Evans	Wright
Sept. 14	Stockport County F.L. Cup 1 2nd Leg	2-1	2,913		Ward	McMahon	Glenn	Wright	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Langley†	Houghton	Quinn	Evans	Cribley
Sept. 19	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	3-1	3,996		Ward	McMahon	Glenn	Wright	Lloyd	Methven	Sheldon	Langley†	Houghton	Quinn	Evans	Cribley
Sept. 23	PORT VALE															
Sept. 26	Tranmere Rovers															
Sept. 29	A.F.C. Bournemouth															

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP COMPETITION 1981-1982 SECOND ROUND DRAW

OCT. 3	TORQUAY UNITED															
Oct. 6	Aldershot F.L. Cup 2 1st Leg															
Oct. 10	STOCKPORT COUNTY															
Oct. 17	Hull City															
Oct. 20	Bury															
Oct. 24	SCUNTHORPE UNITED															
OCT. 27	ALDERSHOT F.L. CUP 2 2nd Leg															
Oct. 30	Colchester United.															
NOV. 4	DARLINGTON															
Nov. 7	HEREFORD UNITED															
Nov. 14	York City															
Nov. 21	F.A. Cup 1.															
Nov. 28	Rochdale															
DEC. 5	HALIFAX TOWN															
Dec. 12	F.A. Cup 2.															
Dec. 19	ALDERSHOT															
Dec. 26	Crewe Alexandra															
Dec. 28	BLACKPOOL															

First leg games for the above draw are due to be played in the week commencing 5th October, 1981.
Second leg games are due to be played in the week commencing 26th October, 1981.
Third round games in this competition will be played in the week commencing 9th November, 1981.

1982

JAN. 2 Mansfield Town
 Jan. 9 Sheffield United
 Jan. 16 PETERBOROUGH UNITED
 Jan. 23 BRADFORD CITY
 Jan. 30 Northampton Town

FEB. 6 HARTLEPOOL UNITED
 Feb. 8 Port Vale
 Feb. 13 Torquay United
 Feb. 20 TRANMERE ROVERS
 Feb. 26 Stockport County

MAR. 6 HULL CITY
 Mar. 10 BURY
 Mar. 12 Scunthorpe United
 Mar. 16 Darlington
 Mar. 20 COLCHESTER UNITED
 Mar. 27 Hereford United

APR. 2 YORK CITY
 Apr. 9 Blackpool
 Apr. 10 CREWE ALEXANDRA
 Apr. 17 Halifax Town
 Apr. 24 ROCHDALE

MAY 1 Peterborough United
 May 5 A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH
 May 8 MANSFIELD TOWN
 May 15 Aldershot

FOURTH DIVISION LEAGUE TABLE AS AT MONDAY,
 21st SEPTEMBER, 1981.

	Home Goals				Away Goals				Pts.
	P	W	D	L	P	W	D	L	
Bournemouth	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	10
Colchester U	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	10
Torquay United	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	10
Blackpool	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	10
Bradford City	4	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	8
Peterborough U	4	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	8
Bury	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	8
Aldershot	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	8
Hull City	4	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	7
Sheffield U	4	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	7
Stockport County	4	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	7
Port Vale	4	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	6
Hartlepool U	4	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
York City	4	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	6
Hereford U	4	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	6
Scunthorpe U	4	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	6
Wigan Athletic	4	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	6
Darlington	4	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	5
Halifax Town	4	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	5
Rochdale	4	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	5
Mansfield Town	4	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	5
Northampton T.	4	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	5
Tranmere Rovers	4	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	5
Crewe Alexandra	4	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	7

Aggregate Attendances for home League fixtures (Fourth Division) to 19th September, 1981

1. Sheffield United	23,199
2. Wigan Athletic	11,997
3. Hull City	10,415
4. Blackpool	9,062
5. Peterborough United	8,078
6. Bradford City	7,830
7. A.F.C. Bournemouth	7,144
8. Bury	7,002
9. Port Vale	6,425
10. Mansfield Town	5,451
11. Hereford United	5,310
12. Colchester United	5,294
13. Torquay United	4,684
14. Stockport County	4,621
15. York City	4,330
16. Rochdale	4,231
17. Crewe Alexandra	4,010
18. Northampton Town	4,002
19. Darlington	3,957
20. Scunthorpe United	3,792
21. Hartlepool United	3,722
22. Aldershot	3,651
23. Halifax Town	3,397
24. Tranmere Rovers	3,263

Each of the clubs listed has played two home games at the time of going to press.

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Comment

FROM THE CHAIR

At the invitation of Mr. Pye, our Chairman, I am pleased to have this opportunity of contributing to the match programme. May I begin by welcoming the Port Vale party to Springfield Park tonight. We look forward to a good game, played in a fine sporting spirit.

As director in charge of ground development and catering, I feel it my duty to emphasise one or two of the matters related to my sphere of activity that have taken place in the recent past.

Pride of place must go to the opening of our new, all-weather, community complex, by Mr. Peter Swales of Manchester City. The surface is the first of its particular type to be laid by En-Tout-Cas. I am sure that the Wigan public will give their full support to the new venture which has been financed jointly by the Sports' Council, the Metropolitan Borough of Wigan, and Wigan Athletic Football Club. The new complex is already being used by local schools and voluntary organisations. Under the able management of our old player, Ian Gillibrand, this exciting new feature is sure to go from strength to strength.

You will have noticed in the local press that crowd control and ground safety matters have been the subject of report. I am

pleased to say that the continuing dialogue with the local police is producing valuable material and forward planning for developments that will need to be made as our club progresses in League football.

We are already receiving favourable comments about the service being offered by our new caterers. Certainly, the range of items on sale to the general public is varied, and seems to be realistically priced.

Recent structural alterations in the Main Stand area have resulted in new entrances, direct to the changing rooms, for home and visiting teams alike, and a more fitting entrance area to the Executive section of the building. These developments will allow us to project our club more favourably to visitors.

The laundry, recently completed under the Main Stand, and the extended Checkers' office, both make it easier for routine work to be carried out in much-improved surroundings. Finally, it would be remiss of me not to mention the excellent work of Billy Mitchell and his ground staff. Compliments about our excellent playing surface are frequent, and these should be directed towards Billy, without whose expertise and hard work, such a beautiful park would not have been possible.

Enjoy tonight's game, and get right behind our team,

Yours sincerely,



A. Muir

Alan Muir, Director.

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Solutions to Puzzle Page

SOCCER NINETY-NINER No. 4 Across: 1. Carl Harris 7. Allen 8. Bruce 9. Sofia 12. Colin 13. Train 14. See 13 across. **Down:** 2. Ally 3. Lincoln 4. Rous 5. swearing 6. Haddicks 8. Bristol 10. Alan (Sunderland) 11. Mann.
ON THE BALL No. 4 — Barry; Derek; Hales; green.
CLUB CLUE No. 4 — Mill-wall.
MIXED DOUBLES No. 4 — Davies, Crowe.
QUICK QUIZ No. 4 — West Ham United (1975); 2. Seattle Sounders; 3. None; 4. Frank and Reg Osborne; 5. Gateshead.

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TEAM CHECK

"HERE NEXT"
Saturday, October 3rd, 1981
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.
WIGAN ATHLETIC v TORQUAY UNITED
Football League Division Four



**WIGAN
ATHLETIC**
(Royal Blue & White Stripes)

- 1 Bob Ward
- 2 John McMahon
- 3 David Glenn
- 4 Jeff Wright
- 5 Larry Lloyd
- 6 Colin Methven
- 7 Kevin Sheldon
- 8 Kevin Langley
- 9 Peter Houghton
- 10 Mike Quinn
- 11 Clive Evans
- 12 Alex Cribley

OFFICIALS

Referee:
MR. J. M. KEY
(Rotherham)

Began refereeing in 1970 in local leagues. Progressed from Sheffield County Senior Leagues, then via Yorkshire League to Northern Premier League and Football League List. A married man, with two sons, he is an Electrical Clerk of Works and is interested in all sports and keeping fit.

Linesmen:
Red Flag Yellow Flag
MR. L.R. DILKES **MR. D. TWEATS**
(Mossley) (Poulton-le-Fylde)

FOR YOUR RECORDS

H.T. SCORE:
F.T. SCORE:
ATTENDANCE:
SCORERS
LATICS:
VISITORS:
.....



**PORT
VALE**
(Yellow & Green)

- 1 Mark Harrison
- 2 Gerry Keenan
- 3 Ray Deakin
- 4 Geoff Hunter
- 5 Phil Sproson
- 6 Paul Bowles
- 7 Neville Chamberlain
- 8 Ernie Moss
- 9 Terry Armstrong
- 10 Russell Bromage
- 11 Mark Chamberlain
- 12 Trevor Brissett